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Mr. *De Labadie's* Letter

To his Daughter

Mrs. Delabadie,

Nurse to the pretended Prince
of *Wales*.

Written in Characters, and Deciphered
by Dr. *Wallis*, Professor of Geometry
in *Oxford*.

Which said LETTER is referred to by
Mr. *Fuller* in his *Two Narratives*, and
is a plain demonstration of that hor-
rid Imposture.

W I T H

Reflections upon it, and a full Answer
to the Material Objections, in a late Pam-
phlet, Entituled, *The Truest Account of*
Mr. Fullers Discovery, &c.

By another Hand.

Printed in the Year, 1696.

Mr. De Labadie's Letter

To his Daughter

Mrs. De Labadie, &c.

THAT Madam De Labadie's Letters and Papers, Demonstrating the Management of the supposititious Birth of the pretended Prince of Wales; were found in her father's Trunks some years ago, and put into the hands of the Government, is very well known, the memory whereof being lately reviv'd by Mr. *Pay*, in his two Books on that Subject, and

and the truth of it called in question by another, published since, in favour of that pretended Prince : It is thought fit, for the satisfaction of the Nation, to publish the *following Copy* of one of those Letters from Mr. *Labadie* to his Daughter, with some Remarks upon it ; to make it appear, that what Mr. *Fuller* hath advanc'd concerning that horrid Imposture, is as well Demonstrated as a thing of that nature can be, except those who were Actors in the Affair would confess it, which we have now no reason to expect.

The Reader is desired to take notice, that the following Letter directed to Mrs. *De Labadie*, is one of those that the Late Q. of Blessed Memory ordered to be Printed, but the performance of the same was prevented by the L. - N. - Pretending they were mis-laid, as Mr. *Fuller* acquaints us, in his *Further Confirmation*, pag. 5. And being in Cyphers, was amongst other Papers of that sort, Committed to the Care of Dr. *Wallis*, Professor of Geometry in Oxford, and by him Deciphered.

The

The Letter is thus.

TO

Mrs. De Labadie, present

I Am so troubled about what you told me last time I saw you, that I cannot forbear any longer Writing to you ; to know how her Majesty behaves her self in that hazardous undertaking.

I must Confess, the only thoughts of it makes me tremble. I hope Nevertheless, that the Ingenuity of her Country

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Country, and the Goodness of her
Cause will bring her off.

Lord what a happy thing it would
be, if we could get a Successor for our
King, that would settle our Fore-fa-
thers Profession in our Country, which
can never be but by this means.

I am afraid of those Hereticks
that are about her, if these could be
put out of the way it would be a very
good thing: Adieu, my Dear, and
don't fail to write to me by the bearer,
and in the same band: I rest

Your ever Loving,

Having

Having accounted already for the *Authority of this Letter*, it remains that we proceed to our *Remarks*.

In the first place, the *Intreigue concerning the Sham Prince* is so plainly express'd in the Letter, that it can admit of no other Gloss, yet to obviate such *Galls or Evasions* as the Faction abounds with; we shall make the following *Animadversions* upon it.

Here's, in the first place, an *unbuzarded* matter to be undertaken by her Majesty, that Mrs. De Labadie is acquainted with, and which she imparts to her father. Now Her Majesties being really with Child, could not in Common sense be called an *undertaking*; but her Countessing to be so, might very well be express'd by that Name, and have the Epithet of *hazardous* as properly adjoined. And Mrs. Labadie being design'd for her Nurse, she was the fittest person in the World to bear a part in the Management, and that the Queen was only

only to *Act* the matter, is evident from *Mr. De Labadie's Concern to know how she behaved her self*: Whereas had there been a real Pregnancy, and a Natural Birth, there had been no need of any such Enquiry, nor no Cause for his Trouble, but rather for his Joy.

But that the *Only Thoughts* of it should make him tremble, as he expresses it in the second Paragraph, is yet a plainer demonstration of the hazard and danger to which he was apprehensive their Party would be expos'd, if her Majesty did not behave her self as she ought; which yet nevertheless he is in great hopes she will, because of the *Ingenuity* of her Country, and the *Goodness* of her Cause. It's true, that the *Ingenuity* of the *Italians*, in matters of Love, has been noted for many ages, of which the Book written by her Countryman, *Ovid de Arte Amandi*, is a Famous Instance; but that there's any other *Ingenuity*, in *Childbearing among the Italians*, than what is Natural to all other Women, is a thing not so much as pretended to; and then, as to
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her being brought off by the Goodness of her Cause, it plainly discovers that her Cause was not the Common Cause of all Mothers, which is, by the appointment of the Almighty, to Replenish the Earth; but hers was to Replenish the Church of Rome: and this is a fresh Instance of the Principles of the Romish Party, that there are no means, how unhallowed soever, which they don't think lawful to put in practice for the advancement of their Cause.

His next Paragraph contains a plain Declaration what that Cause is, viz. To get a Successor for their King, that would settle their Forefathers Profession in their Country. This is truly very pleasant; other Kings use to get Successors for themselves; but K. James, poor Prince! must have one got for him. If there were not other Circumstances which prove this Impossure to be a Cheat of another Nature, we should be tempted by this Expression, to think that our Monarch had,

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like *Henry King of Castile*, got some body else to lie with his Queen, seeing he was not able to get her with Child himself: but if that had been the Matter, there had been no need of the Queen's being so very Circumspect in her Behaviour, nor of making use of the *Ingenuity of her Country*, to Counterfeit a Big-Belly, but it was plain that a King of Clouts, in the strictest sense, was to be Paum'd upon the Nation, and that was the true Reason which made all this Precaution Necessary.

We are at a Loss, to understand, whether by the Last Sentence, viz. *Which can never be but by this means*, the Author understood, that the Popish Religion could never be Establish'd in *England* without such a Successor: or that there was no other way to procure a Successor but by *this means*: If it be the Latter, then it is a plain demonstration, that they knew the Queen to be Impotent as well as the King, or other-
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wife they might have made use of the *King of Castiles Means* above-mentioned, which the Goodness of the Cause, and her Majesty's *Italian Ingenuity*, would soon have perswaded her to; but if it be the former, then we hope it will open the Eyes of our Protestant *Jacobites*, and convince them, that the Chief Thing aim'd at by this Intrigue, was the overthrow of the Protestant Religion.

But the Concluding Paragraph gives us the Finishing Stroke, viz. *He was afraid of those Hereticks that were about the Queen.* Why what's the Danger from those Hereticks? why truly they suspected, that the Queen, like the *Grecian-Horse*, was Big, with Designs against our *Troy*; but they, poor Souls, were attended with *Cassandra's Fate*, viz. *They were not believed till the Plot discover'd it self*: but if there had been no Imposture Design'd, Why should they be in such a mortal dread of the Hereticks; Could they kill, with a bare Look, like the *Basilisk*?

filisk? Might not the *Queens* naked *Breast and Belly* have been exposed to the View of the *Heretical Ladies* without any danger? Might not such Persons have been present at the Labour, and have been admitted to see the Child actually delivered from the *Queen's* Body? Or was it below the *Queen of England* to have been Delivered on a *Pallat-Bed* in the view of the next *Heiress*, any more than it was below the late *Queen of France* to be Delivered of the Present King upon a *Pallat-bed*, the *Duke of Orleance*, who was the next *Heir*, being an *Eye-witness*.

But the Case is plain, the *Protestants* who were concerned in *Conscience* and *Interest* to be strict observers, were more likely to discover the *Imposture* than others; and therefore it was necessary they should be put out of the way.

So that we have the *True Reason* from *Mr. Delabadies* Pen, why no *Protestant*

restant Lady was ever Admitted, to
 View the Queen's Breasts, and try the
 Reality of her having Milk, either be-
 fore, or after the Pretended Birth: and
 that same is the Reason why no La-
 dies of the Reformed Religion were
 ever admitted to see, or feel her Belly:
 and, in short, this unfolds the Myste-
 ry of all those Precautions made use of
 to Amuse the World, and to prevent a
 Discovery, as her *different Reckonings*,
 the keeping of the Place of her Lying-
 In uncertain, and the Methods taken
 to have all her Physicians and Servants
 absent at the Time of her Pretended
 Delivery, except those concerned in the
 Intrigue: And for that very same
 reason it was that she pretended to be
 delivered in Bed Covered, and that the
 Protestant Ladies might have no oppor-
 tunity to satisfy themselves, it was Or-
 dered, that the King and Council
 should be present in the Room when
 all things were prepared for the Im-
 posture, that so there should be a neces-
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sity of the Queen's being covered, and a Plausible Reason why the Ladies should not desire the contrary: and by this means it was impossible that they could be either Eye-Witnesses of the Birth, or actually discover the Cheat.

We come now to Examine the Arguments advanced by the Author of the Pamphlet, Intituled, *The Truest Account of Mr. Fuller's Discovery of the True Mother of the Pretended Prince of Wales, Born the 10th of June, 1688. by a Person of Quality.* But before we touch on the Particulars, it is necessary that the Author should be a little Unmaskt.

He pretends, Page 1. That the Succession of the CROWN is otherwise Legally and Sufficiently Secured against any Title or Plea from the said Prince, and that it may reasonably be thought, that the Noise some Little Writers have lately

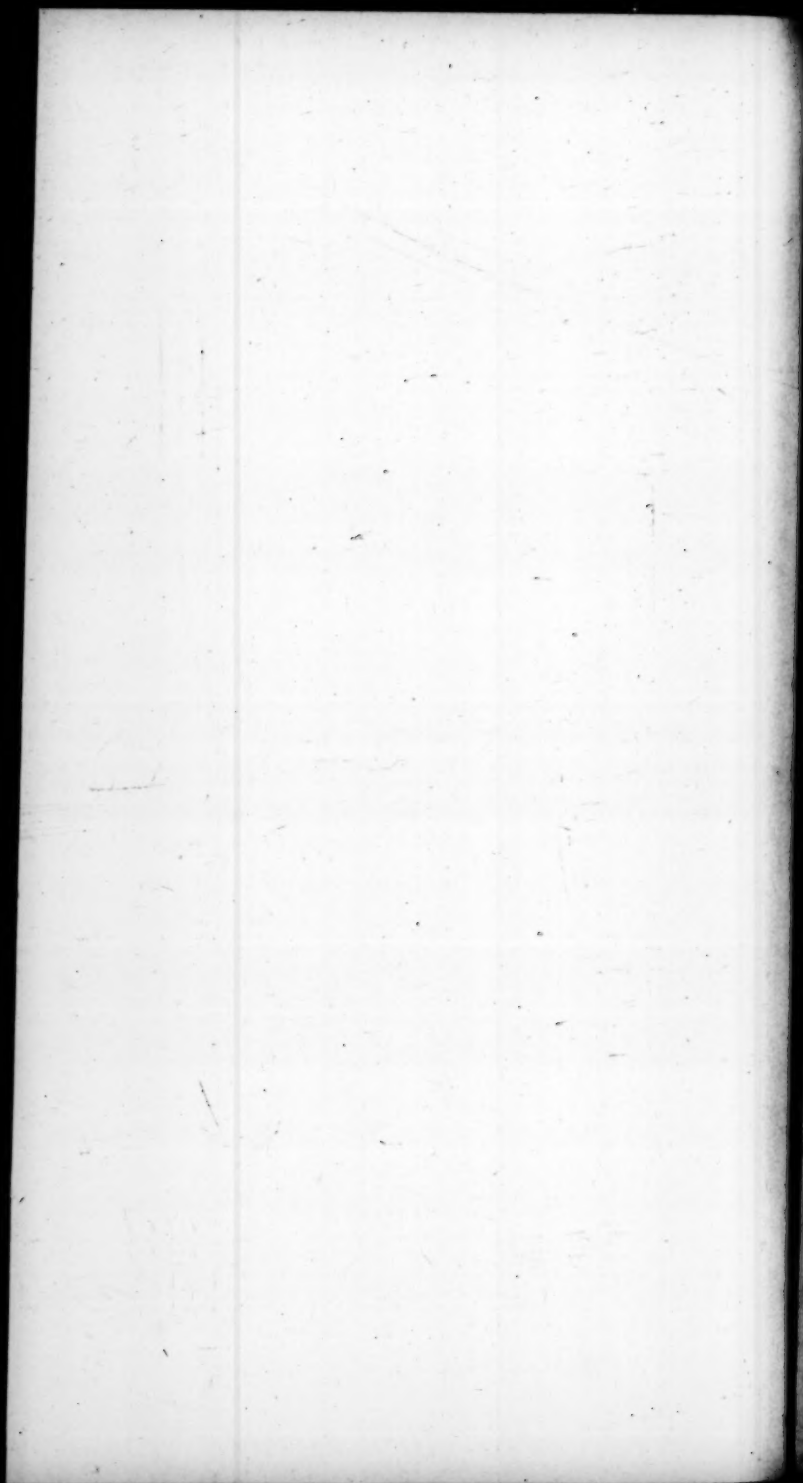
lately made about this Affair, has proceeded only from some sordid desire of Lucre, by the Sale of their Copies, and of rendering themselves Popular and Gracious with the *Unthinking Mob*, rather than out of any Zeal to Serve the Government.

And, Page 5. That the Persons supposed, or declared our Enemies, have True Faults enough to employ our Censures, and therefore 'tis neither a part of Generosity, nor Christian Charity, to charge them with uncertain Suspitions, or any thing but what will bear the Test of a Visible Proof. All this is only an *Amusement*, by which the *Author* would Impose upon the *World*, as if he were no Enemy to the Present Government; and that he had only undertaken this Province out of respect to Truth; but they must be very silly Birds indeed, who are caught with such Chaff: The whole design of this *Pamphlet* is to fix a Nobe of Injustice

since upon the present Government, as having charged such things upon the late King, as he was never guilty of, and particularly in relation to this Counterfeit Prince.

We come now to consider his Arguments, which are, pag. 1. That *Whether the Birth of the pretended Prince of Wales were Legitimate or Suppositions, has not yet been thought a Question worthy enough to be examined by publick Authority, Which is a downright untruth; for the Late King James, thought it worthy to be proved by such depositions as he was able to procure, and to have the said Depositions, how lame and Defective soever, entered on a publick Record in Chancery, as our Author owns himself, pag. 5. and 22. and that they were published by Authority, just before the Revolution, pag. 20. By which its apparent, that the Question was thought worthy of a Decision on his side, by all the authority that he was Master of, which does naturally imply that*
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the truth of the matter was questioned by some Authority or other, and that it was really so, is plain to the View of the World by the Prince of *Oranges* Declaration, wherein he desir'd that the Examination of this Question might be referred to a free Parliament; and this he was impowered to demand by the Authority of our Laws, according to which his Princess was the presumptive Heiress to our Crown. But King *James* durst not adventure to bring the matter to this Touch-stone, and therefore its apparent that instead of alledging, that this Question has not been thought worthy enough to be examined by publick Authority, our Author ought to have said, that the late King *James* durst never submit the matter to such an Examination.

But we shall suppose the Gentlemen meaning to be this, that neither the Convention nor any of the Parliaments, since the Revolution, have thought
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the matter worthy their Examination. And if it be so, it's the less for the Credit of his Party, for then it must of necessity follow that they thought the matter so palpable that it needed no further Enquiry.

But if he mean that the Parliament or Convention ought to have made a scrutiny into this affair, before they had proceeded to the settlement of the Crown: He may be pleased to consider, that they were not under the least obligation to do so, for the late King, had so much diffidence of the Justice of the *English* Nation; that he durst not trust them with the Determination of the point, but immediately sent to *France* his Queen with her pretended Son, Nurse, Midwife, and other Servants, who must have been examined if the matter had been submitted to their Enquiry, and having, instead of calling a free Parliament, according to the Princes desire, recall'd the Writs
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for Summoning of one, which he had endeavour'd to make for his Interest, and then withdrawn in person from the Kingdom, the succeeding Convention, and following Parliaments, had all the reason in the World to take it *pro confesso*, that he own'd the *Imposture*, and therefore there was no reason that they should give themselves any further trouble about it.

The Gentleman is likewise desir'd to Consider, that the Late K. *James*, had by the methods above-mentioned rendered any such Examination wholly impracticable; for if the Parliament had been entrusted with such a National Concern, the Queen, the Child, and the Deponents, then in being, ought to have been personally present, that they might have answered such Interrogatories, as the Wisdom of the Nation should have thought fit to propose to them; but whereas instead of following it so, the Late King sent the

principal persons out of the way, who could best have attested the *Reality of the Birth*, or of the *Imposture*; it's an Argument sufficient to convince an Indifferent person, that there were some deeds of Darknes in the Case, which could not abide the Test of an Examination.

If it be answered that the Parliament however ought to have summoned those Witnesses to appear before them, or at least to have Examined such as Remain'd behind. We Reply that the Late K. *James* having thought his Interest to carry off the Witnesses would certainly never have suffered them to come, for that had been a direct owning the Convention, Parliaments Authority and Power, to examine and decide that Question which he would never have submitted to, if they had been call'd by himself, and much less when they were called by another; and therefore it had been
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very imprudent in them to have deferred the Settlement of the Nation upon that account, especially seeing the Late King did never desire that they should make an Enquiry into that affair; and as to the Examining of the Witnesses that were left behind, it was to no purpose, seeing the most material Witnesses were carried beyond Sea, so that if it should have happened upon the Cross Examination of those that were left here, that the Imposture should have been discovered, the party would still have raised a Clamour that Justice was not done them, because the most material Witnesses were absent.

Our Author, page 15. Says, he will now lay before us, *Some proofs of another nature from a numerous Troop of Honourable Eye-Witnesses, whose Testimony is on publick Record, and which, tho' contradicted by Mr. Fuller and his Secretary; yet never was retracted and much less*
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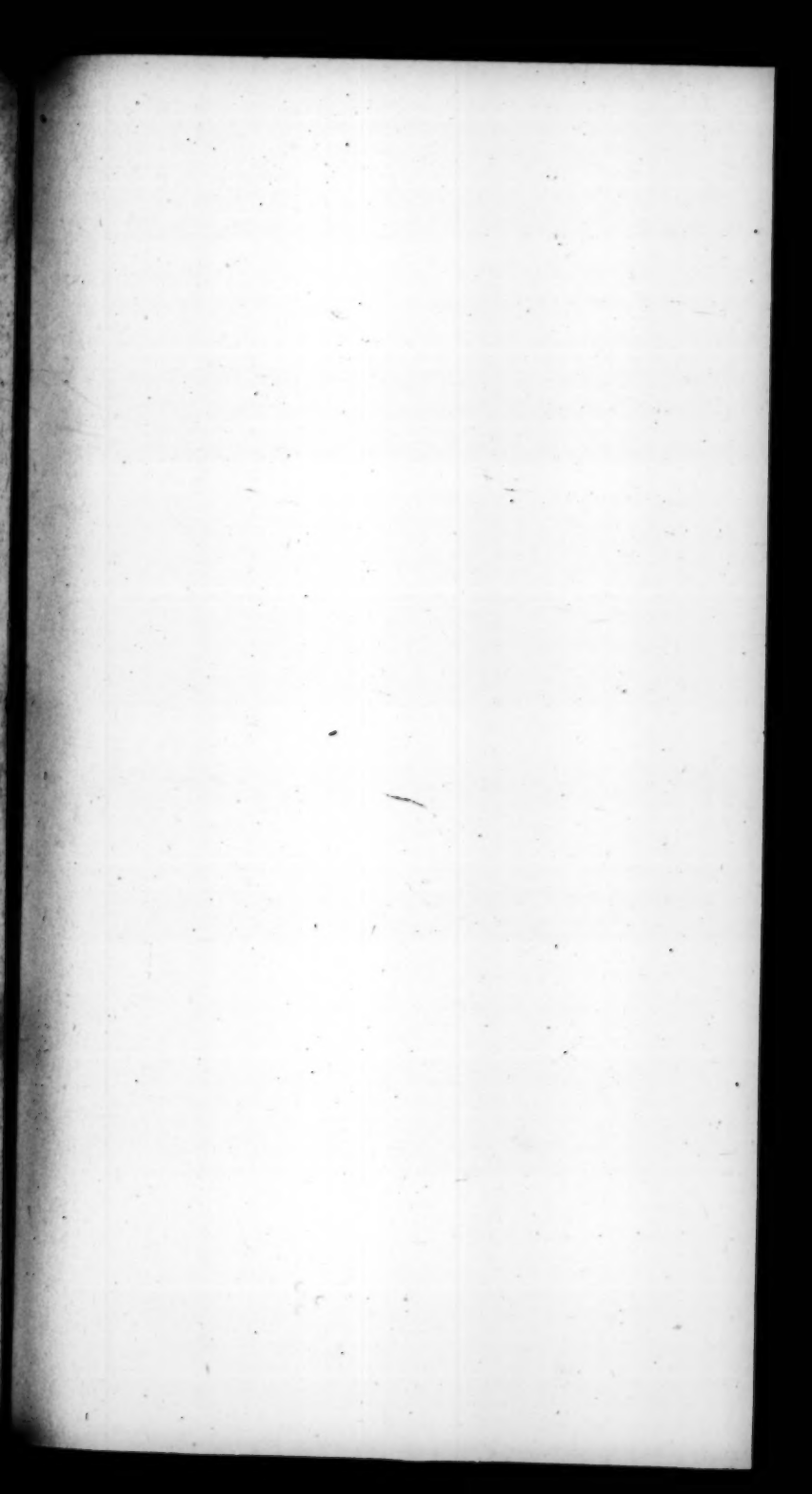
Condemned; nor any other Equivalent
 Contradictory Testimony tendered as yet in
 the like Records against it, these all u-
 nanimously declare the Late Queen to be
 this true Master. A very plausible sto-
 ry, and a handsome skreen indeed to
 cover the Imposture, but will no more
 abide the Test of an Examination, than
 the pretended Birth; The Gentlemans
 Confidence is truly superlative to im-
 pose upon us in this manner, as if the
 Depositions imported that the Depo-
 nents, been made by such as were all
 of them Eye Witnesses of the Prince's
 Birth, when by the same depositions
 it's plain and evident, that the Queen
 was covered in her Bed, and pretend-
 ed to be so delivered, so that it was
 morally impossible for any of them to
 be Eye Witnesses of the delivery; and
 this the Gentleman may soon be con-
 vinct'd of, if he do but cast his Eye on
 the very first of his Depositions, which
 is, that of the Countess of Sunderland;
 wherein we are told, that the Mid-
 wife

wife pull'd her Ladyship by the Coat, which was the sign agreed on betwixt them, to let her know that it was a Son, which had been altogether Needless if the Countess had been an Eye-Witness; and it is plainer still by the reason of the private Sign, which was, that the Queen had charg'd the Midwife not to let Queen Dowager know presently, whether it was a Son or a Daughter, so that neither the Countess of Sandwich, nor yet the Queen Dowager, whose Religion and Character entitl'd her to a pretence of seeing all that could be seen, were Eye-Witnesses of the Birth, tho present all the time of the pretended Labour. Hence then it appears, that our Author does plainly equivocate in a Jesuitical manner, for the support of his Popish Cause, for every body will easily perceive the difference betwixt being Eye-Witnesses, that a Child lately Born was taken out of the Bed from the Queen, where she lay covered; and

and being Eye-Witnesses that the Child was really Born of the Queen's Body.

Then whereas he says that they do all Unanimously upon Oath declare the late *Queen* to be his true Mother, it is notoriously false. There are many of 'em indeed who talk of the *Queens* being Delivered, but that proceeded only from the common Idea which all Mankind form to themselves in such cases, when they see or hear of a Woman being in Child-bed, but that they could justly depose upon Oath, That the *Queen* was his true Mother, was morally impossible, seeing they were not Eye Witnesses of his being Born of the Queen's Body.

As to their Evidences never being retracted, we know no reason why it should be expected, many of the Witnesses were so devoted to the Cause as *Wilks Jurini de Labadie, &c.* That to
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make use of the common Expression; they would swear through an Inch-board to serve it ; and as for that part of the Evidence which relates to the seeing of the Queen's Shift wet with Milk, and a Child taken out of the Bed from her, there's no need of retracting it, for no body questions the Truth of it ; as to the Milk, it might either be Counterfeit or real, without prejudice to our Cause, it being no extraordinary Phenomenon in Nature for those to have Milk who have had no Children for several Years, tho there's more reason to suspect a Counterfeit in this Case, and as to the Child there's no doubt of it, being taken out of the Queen's Bed; but all the question is how it came there. The Author tells us, *pag. 8.* in Mrs. *Dawson's* Depositions, That the Queen was wholly left alone immediately before her (pretended) Labour, and that while she was in her imaginary pains, she saw the Fire carried into the Queen's Room in a Warming-Pan

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to warm the Bed, though all agree that the Pan was covered; and the Author knows the Report which did then Universally obtain, that the Child was brought in the same from a neighbouring Apartment; and now that Mr. *Ful-ler* has Discovered Mrs. *Mary Greys* being brought to bed in the *Narrow Gallery*, between the *Queen's* Apartment and the *Great Chapple* at the very same time, there's no room left to doubt but her Child was conveyed to the *Queen's* Bed; and if there was not some such abominable Cheat in Hand, why should the *Queen* have been left alone in such a dangerous condition as she was then pretended to be in? Why should the King have gone to the other side of the House with all the Men? Why should all her own Servants be sent to the Chappel, as if there had been no reason to attend upon the *Queen*, but that the Imposture might be carried on with the more secrecy by the few that were to be Actors in the Intrigue.

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What other Reason can there be assign'd for the *Queens* sudden Removal to *St. James's*, and that also in the Night; and why there was no more publick Provision made for her Lying in, and that it was not so much as talkt of, or seemingly apprehended by her Servants that very Morning, in so much that they were all sent from about her, but because they could not be certain whether Mrs. Grey should bring forth a Dead or a Living Child, or a Son, or a Daughter, till the very critical Minute; that so if it had either been a Female or a Dead Child, they might have found some other way either to carry on the Imposture, or drop it at that time, but as soon as Mrs. Grey was delivered of a Boy, then all of a sudden the *Queen's* pretended Labour comes on: We don't know what *de facto* proof would satisfy our Author, but certainly all those things, together with the *Queens* being

covered in Bed, and that neither of the Princesses nor their Deputies, nor none of the Privy Councillors, nor Ladies, Protestants, or Papists, were suffered to be the Eye Witnesses of the Childs being actually taken out of her Body, as they ought to have been, considering the strong and Violent suspicion there was of a Cheat, I say, that all those things being Considered, it is as strong a proof of the Imposture, at least, as his Depositions are of the *Real Birth*, for which there is but one single Witness who swears positive, and that is the Midwife; a begotted Papist, and a Tool fitted for the design, so that he has no reason to object against the single Testimony of Mr. Fuller; when the Title of their pretended Prince has no more but one to support it, and that also the Evidence of such an one whose Testimony cannot be reviv'd in a civil Cause. We would moreover, desire our Author to reconcile the Contradiction between the depo-

depositions of the said Mrs. Wilks and the Lady Bellasis; the former swears that she cut The Childs Navel string in Bed, and that as soon as it was cut, the Child cried; The latter swears, that she saw the Child taken out of the Bed with the Navel-string hanging to his Belly; and opening the Receiver, saw it was a Son, and not hearing the Child cry, and seeing it a Little black, she was afraid it was in a Convulsion fit. Now this Lady deposes she stood behind the Midwives Chair, and therefore it's strange she should not have heard the Child cry, as well as the Midwife. But for these things, we refer to the *Compleat History of the pretended Prince of Wales*, where the depositions are considered more at Large.

Then as to the Testimonies being on publick Record, He must give us leave to tell him, that there can be no less laid on that Examination, where

where the King was Defendant, the
Papists Maintainers, so that His Ma-
jesty sat as Judge, and the Popish
Defendants were examined for them-
selves, and none to interrupt them.

By that same Rule which the party
think his present Majesty, and the
Parliament were obliged to have sum-
moned the Witnesses who made those
depositions, in order to have made an
Enquiry into that affair, the Late King
was obliged to have made publick
Proclamation, that all who know any
thing concerning the matter should
come and depose upon Oath, such their
knowledge, with his Royal promise to
Indemnify and not molest them, and
the Examination ought to have been
made in presence of the two Prin-
cesses, and the Princes their Husbands,
who should have had Liberty to put
such Cross questions to the Evidence
as they thought fit. But nothing of
this being done, and the Late King
having

having also declin'd to submit the Enquiry into the whole affair unto a free Parliament, our Author must give us leave to retain our suspicion; notwithstanding his strenuous endeavours to amuse the World with his Numerous Train of Eye-Witnesses. The Instance of a forged Bond from a Gentleman in *Grays Inn*, to his Landress after he was Dead, and to which the Witness swore positively at first, pleads strongly for the necessity of Cross Interrogatories, seeing upon the Rebound the same Witnesses who swore that they saw him sign the Bond, did afterwards discover that it was by a Pen put in his hand, and guided by another after he was Dead.

Then as to their Testimonies never being condemned, nor any other contradictory equivalent Testimony entered, it's plain from what is already said, that King *James* hath rendered that impracticable in ordinary course of Law,
nor

nor is it indeed necessary. Our Author being a Person of Quality, cannot be ignorant that the Imposture designed by the former Queen *Mary*, was never, for any thing we know, condemned by Publick Authority. Nor did Queen *Elizabeth* cause any contradictory equivalent Testimony to be entred against it, and yet the Truth of the Imposture is generally believed, nor would it have failed of coming as great a Length as this, if *Philip II.* had not been of a more generous temper than *James II.* and *Lewis XIV.*

It was certainly much better Founded than this last Imposture, for not only the Privy-Council sent Orders abroad to make Prayers for the Child, but the Parliament was so far impos'd upon as to enter into the consideration of Provisions for the Child, which was far greater Circumstance of the Reality of the Pregnancy, than any thing that can be pretended to in this of the *Last Prince*

Prince of Wales, and therefore it is not to be wondred at that so many Lords and Ladies should be deceived in this case, seeing they were not allowed to see the *Actual Delivery*, and so they have rendered the Birth of their supposed Prince, for ever incapable of being proven that way by any but the Tool of a Midwife, who cannot be admitted as a Witness in Law, so that all the proof which they can pretend to now is only that the Child was taken out of the Queen's Bed, &c. whereas all this might have been prevented had the *Princess of Denmark*, or any other Protestant Ladies been allowed to see the Child taken out of the Queen's Body.

It is also observable, that the former *Queen Marys* Imposture was managed in the same manner, for none during her pretended bigness was admitted, on behalf of the Lady *Elizabeth*, to view her Breasts or Belly, and several persons were put out of favour and discarded for speaking plainly in the Case, there being a General suspicion amongst

amongst Protestants then, as there was now, as appears by *Bakers History*, and *Foxes Acts and Monuments*; it must be own'd that *Queen Marys* Game was much harder to play then the Late *Queens*, because King *Philip* was an utter Enemy to the Imposture, but it cannot be so said of the Late King *James*, for it is evident that he was a Zealot in it.

It may be objected, that *Queen Mary Tudors* design having miscarried, there was no need of making any enquiry into that affair, or of entring a Contradictory Testimony against it. We answer that it's true, there was not the same need as in the present Case, yet if the matter could have been detected; It must be own'd that it would have been of great use, and a convincing instance to future Ages, that the Papists think no means unlawful, how wicked soever, if they can any way subserve to promote their

their Church, for this supposed Pregnancy was by the Privy Council ascribed to providence, and the Divine care of Christs only flock, for the throwing down of the Protestant Heresie, and the Physicians, Ladies of Honour, &c. Justify'd the *Queens* conception as to all signs, so that it would have certainly been of very great use at that time, and have tended much to bring the Popish Idolatry into disrepute, if the methods of the Imposture, how they rais'd her Belly, and how they impos'd upon the Privy Council and Parliament, had been fully displaid.

And therefore seeing the Particulars of that Imposture, tho allowed to be one, on all hands, never came to Light, nor that none of the Cabal did ever confess it

on their Death beds, or otherwise ; we are not to wonder if this Intrigue should never be fully discovered, especially now that they have prevented the Evidence of Mrs. *Mary Grey*, who there's all the Reason in the World to believe, was the true Mother of our pretended Prince.

Our Author after having finished his account of the *Depositions* tells us , page 22. That none of the Witnesses were under any force, neither were they all of one Religion, yet they unanimously gave in their Testimony upon Oath, and suffer it without any Contradiction to be publicly Recorded in the Court of Chancery, as their standing Testimony, that the Late *Queen Mary*, was the true Mother of the pretended Prince of *Wales*.

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To all which it's answered, that their not being all of one Religion, is nothing at all to the Advantage of his Cause; for it must be own'd to our shame, that there are a sort of Protestants in England, as bad, nay, worse than the Papists themselves; Charnock, King, Keys, Rookwood, Louick, Parkins, Friend, and Cranborn, were not all of one Religion, yet they were all in one Design against the Laws and Religion of the Nation; and it's obvious to any Man that peruses their Tryals and last Speeches, that such of them as professed themselves to be Protestants, were a great deal the worse Men and Christians, than those of 'em that Died Papists, and we have a very late Instance of one who calls himself a Protestant, and a very devout one, who forswore himself at his Tryal,

and

and denied such things with the most dreadful of Imprecations, which he hath since Confessed to be true.

Then as to the Witnesses being under no force, it is as little to the purpose, They were all of one Faction, a very few of them excepted, and so willing to promote the Design, that there was no need to force them to an Attestation, and whereas he will have it, that they gave their Unanimous Testimony upon Oath, That the Queen was the true Mother, he will find it otherwise upon a second perusal of the Depositions, as has been already noted, They only Swear what they heard and saw, but not one of them Deposed, That they were Eye Witnesses of the Birth, though our Author has the Confidence to say so again and again.

gain.— And upon the whole it is demonstrable, that of all the thirty seven Witnesses, there's only the Widwife who Swears to the thing it self, and all the rest swear only to Circumstances, which being his own Exception against Mr. *Fullers* Evidence, pag. 23. He must needs allow it to be as Valid against theirs. He alledges, *Ibid.* that most of the Witnesses were of high quality, and that others of them had intimate knowledg in the truth of the Fact. As to their Quality we shall say nothing; but certainly *Judith Wilks*, when she gave in her Evidence at the *Chancery Bar*, did not appear like one who deserves that Character, and it was indeed observable that she went at other times richly Apparell'd, yet then she came habited in a *Green Apron*, and a *Tattered Scarf*, that her seeming Simplicity and Meanness might create

create a belief in the Spectators, that she was neither capable of managing such an Intrigue, nor fit to be intrusted with it; and she being the only Witness who Swears home, and having no pretensions to *Quality*, that big word is of no signifi-
cancy to our Author.

But because we would not be understood to reflect upon those of *Quality*, or were undoubtedly of the Protestant Religion, and yet made use of as Evidence in this Case; we desire it may be observed, that let their Probity and *Quality* be never so Eminent, matters were so ordered that they were not allowed to be Witnesses of the Birth; but having been then at Court, they could neither handsomely nor safely refuse to give an Account of what they heard and saw when the King desired it: But as we have al-
ready

ready said, the Examination was neither fairly nor impartially managed. Nor durst any of them, but with the hazard of their Lives, have at that time said any thing which could Administer the least Ground of Suspicion, and tho we will grant our Author that none of 'em were under any force, yet he cannot pretend but they had cause enough of fear ; and whereas he alledges that others of the Witnesses had intimate knowledge in the truth of the fact : It is a Notorious falsehood, for none of 'em pretend to it but the *Popish Midwife*.

His ridiculing the Escape , Examination and Tragical fate of Mrs. Grey, is but a very ordinary piece of Wit. Does he think that *Lewis XIV.* and *Mary of Modena* are persons of such a Refin'd
 F Honour

Honour and tender Conscience, that they would scruple the Murder of such an Insignificant woman as Mrs. Grey, when it's plain to the World that their boundless Ambition and Zeal for Idolatry, hath involv'd Europe in Blood and Flames? Was it of no Concernment to those two persons, to prevent the discovery of the horrid Imposture by such *Material Evidence*? Was it below the *French Kings Grandeur*, to Enquire whether her escape had been favoured by the Prince of Oranges Friends, as we are told by Mr. Fuller they did at first suspect it to have been? Is *Levi XIV's*. Conscience, which is so much hardened with Blood and Destruction, that it can digest the *Assassination of Sovereign Princes*, become so very tender Late, that it cannot away with

the Blood of a private Woman?
 Or is it reasonable to think that
 they would trust this poor Crea-
 ture to our Authors *Oublies*, when
 they had before-hand Condemn'd
 her to perpetual Oblivion? Were
Coleman and *Plunket* hang'd to
 prevent telling of Tales, and
 what reason can our Author as-
 sign, why Mrs. Grey should have
 more favour? Or supposing she
 should have escap'd into *England*,
 and there made a *discovery*, does
 our Author think that his Extra-
 ordinary Invention of Charging it
 on a Forgery of the Prince of
Orange, and his Friends, would
 have satisfied the World, and was
 not more wisely done in the
French King and his Messalina,
 than our Author has put us in
 mind of it, to prevent the occa-
 sion of such a superlative piece of
 wit, then to venture the need of

making use of it? Might it not have been possible for Mrs. Grey, if she had got into *England*, to have directed us to other Concurrent Testimonies to have strengthened her own? How does this person of Quality know that she could not have brought the *true Father*, as well as the *true Mother* for a Witness, or why may we not suppose that Mrs. Grey could have quoted such Circumstances, as might have turn'd a great part of his *thirty six Circumstantial Witnesses*, against his suppositious Prince? Tho our Author

thor could not or would not foresee such dismal Consequences, of Mrs. Grey's Elopement from the fat Bel-
 lied Monks, to whom she was married, yet Lewis XIV. and his *Messalina* could see further, and therefore rather than the whole Catholick cause should suffer, it was expedient that one Woman should Perish, and thus his *Messalina*.

Ne Scelerata fit, facit Scelus.

The Gentleman is so hugely addicted to the *A-pocrypha*, that none but *Apo-crypha*

original Authors will down
 with him; In the begin-
 ning he attacks us with the
 Noble Zorobabel, and He brings
 up his Rere with the Cheva-
 lier Lestrange, but we would
 have our Author to know
 that the Sir Roger was for-
 merly quoted from the Pul-
 pit, the Commissioners of
 Enquiry, who were employ-
 ed to examine whether his
 works were to be found in
 the Canon, have made an
 unanimous return of *non est
 Inventus*; and thus we bid our
 Author Farewel.

F P N I S.

